

8 November 1962

STATINTL MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT : RCA Methods Support

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1. Jim Corsetty, RCA--Methods, has made his primary function that of planning and programming for the RCA 301 installation. This is pretty well completed at this point. He and [REDACTED] (ADPD) have made quite a few trips to Baltimore for test and debug on 301 of similar specifications to ours. Jim says they have been going over there two or three nights a week and getting back as late as 3 a.m. He is very impressed with the attitude and devotion to duty shown by [REDACTED] and some of the other programmers in ADPD.

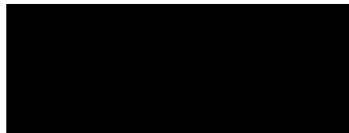
2. Our 301 has been tested with 1402 at West Palm Beach and is now packed and ready for shipment. But Jim would like to test some card-to-tape and tape-to-card operations before it is shipped, since no parallel operations are planned, i.e. the other peripheral equipment goes out the same day the 301 comes in. This may not be possible since machine would have to be unpacked and set up at West Palm Beach and shipment schedule is approximately 16 November. It is not essential that this be done since we would still have emergency back up at RCA K Street or other Government installations.

3. Jim and I had a long talk about programming and operations techniques under 501/301 concept. Some of the items discussed:

- a. Possible improvements in sorting times (usually averages 60% of operational time on a 501) by use of blocked fixed records instead of variable length records.

- b. Limiting processing operations on the 501 to updating and sorting operations and utilizing 301 with report generator programs for report preparation. This would save 501 time and accomplish certain additional computer processing simultaneously with 301 printing.
 - c. Greater use of cards as a media of data input. Cards could be edited and processed to mag tape on the 301 at low cost. Mag tape from 301 could be a faster means of input to the 501 than present paper tape.
4. Jim promised to explore some of these possibilities after the 301 is operational.

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